REESE

INQUIRIES : FAX 219-254-6442
ORDERS ONLY : FAX 219-252-4368

REESE PRODUCTS, INC. / P.O. BOX 1706 / 31571 ST. RD. 19-N, ELKHART, IN 46515 / 219-264-7564

July 22, 1993

93E-023 (01)

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir or Madam:

Reese Products, Inc. (Reese) is submitting this report to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for purposes of advising the agency that Reese will conduct a safety-related recall of certain trailer hitches produced by Reese as specified below, in accordance with the applicable provisions of 49 C.F.R. Parts 573 and 577. In this connection, Reese notes that a safety recall campaign related to original equipment applications of the subject trailer hitches was conducted by Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, which notified NHTSA/ODI of its campaign by letter dated February 1, 1993.

1. Trailer hitches potentially containing the defect:

Type of Trailer Hitch	Part or Model Nos.	Application(s)	Inclusive Dates of Manufacture
CL II Insta	06070	87-91 Raider 4x4 89-91 Amigo 86-91 Trooper & Trooper II (not RS & LS) 91-92 Montero 91-93 Land Cruiser	Mar '92-June '93*

2. Total number of trailer hitches potentially containing the defect:

670

3. Percentage of subject trailer hitches estimated to actually contain the defect:

Less than 4%

4. Description of defect: Weld failure, potentially allowing the trailer hitch to become separated at the receiver unit.

5. Chronology: Earlier this year, Reese's original equipment customer, Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, Inc., determined that applications of the subject hitch on its 1992-1993 model year Montero vehicles contained a weld defect related to motor vehicle safety, and so advised its dealers and vehicle owners. In the intervening period, Reese has reviewed the situation further to determine whether aftermarket applications of the subject hitch also raise safety defect concerns. On July 19, 1993, Reese determined that the aftermarket hitches may also contain a defect related to a motor vehicle safety, and began the notification and report process required by the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

6. Remedy Program: Reese will initiate a recall campaign, replacing both those subject trailer hitches that are in use, and hitches from dealer inventories, all without charge. To initiate campaign, Reese will contact by telephone all dealers and owners of record with Reese, to give advance notice of recall.

7. Attached is a representative copy of the notices relating to the potential defect which are being sent to dealers and owners.

Please notify the undersigned of the NHTSA/ODI campaign number assigned to this recall.

Sincerely,

Randal Rockwell

Randal Rockwell
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

93E-023 (03)

REESE

INQUIRIES : FAX 219-264-6442
ORDERS ONLY : FAX 219-262-4368

REESE PRODUCTS, INC. / P.O. BOX 1706 / 51671 ST. RD. 19-N, ELKHART, IN 46515 / 219-264-7564

July 22, 1993

TO: Reese Customers who have purchased Reese Class II Hitch #06070

SUBJECT: Reese Trailer Hitch Model Number 06070 Safety Recall Campaign

Reese Products, Inc., has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Class II Insta Hitch Model 06070. The weld material holding the square hitch box to the hitch mounting plate can fail. Failure of this weld could result in serious injury.

To prevent this condition from occurring, dealers are to install a replacement hitch #06088 which will be provided without charge by Reese. (See diagram)

Reese estimates that the time to complete this replacement/repair is approximately one hour, and will compensate the dealer for labor charges in the amount of $40.00.

SERVICE PROCEDURE:

1. Remove 06070

2. Replace with 06088 following procedure on instruction sheet

PERFORMANCE OF REQUIRED REPAIRS (See Diagram Attached):

1. Place a No-Charge Warranty Order for the number of 06088 hitches from the Reese factory (phone 1-800/326-1090, ext. 302)

2. When placing order, request an R.G.A. Number and a U.P.S. Call Tag to pick up the recalled 06070 hitches. (Freight paid by Reese)

3. Reese will reimburse each installer $40.00 for each replacement when we receive the returned 06070 hitches.

TRAILER HITCHES IN INVENTORY:

1. #06070 hitches in inventory (not installed) will be replaced with hitch #06088. Follow order and return procedure outlined above.

OWNER NOTIFICATION:

Where known to Reese, owners will be notified of this campaign directly by Reese (see copy of owner letter included with bulletin). Since, however, in most cases, only the dealer will know the names and addresses of affected owners of this hitch product, Reese must rely on the dealer to contact these purchasers, using the attached owner letter. We urge your cooperation in reaching these owners so that the necessary hitch replacement can be made as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance in this campaign. We know that you share Reese Products' interest in the safe operation of its products.

REESE PRODUCTS, INC.
Randal Rockwell
Chief Engineer

NOTE: For technical assistance contact Reese Service Center 1-800/758-0869

93E-023 (05)

REESE

Inquiries : FAX 219-264-6442
Orders Only : FAX 219-262-4368

REESE PRODUCTS, INC. / P.O. BOX 1706 / 51871 ST. RD. 19-N, ELKHART, IN 46515 / 219-264-7564

July 22, 1993

REF: Class II Hitch #06070

Dear Reese Hitch Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Reese Products has determined that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in certain Class II hitches #06070 (see diagram attached). The weld material holding the square hitch box to the hitch mounting plate can fail. Failure of this weld could result in a serious injury or vehicle crash without prior warning. If the subject hitch has been installed on your vehicle, you are urged to take your vehicle into the dealer from whom you purchased the hitch.

Your Reese dealer is best equipped to provide service to ensure that your trailer hitch is replaced as promptly as possible. This replacement will be accomplished without charge to you, and Reese Products estimates that #06088 replacement hitches will be available at dealer locations on or about August 10, 1993. This replacement requires approximately one hour to complete, but may take longer depending on your dealer's schedule. To determine whether your hitch is involved in this recall, please refer to the illustration on this letter.

If you are not satisfied that your dealer has done its best to remedy this condition without charge within a reasonable time, please contact the Reese Products Warranty Department, by calling toll-free 1-800/326-1090, ext 271. You may also contact the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call 1-800/424-9393. (Washington, D.C. area residents may call 426-0123.)

We regret any inconvenience that this recall may cause you, and very much appreciate your cooperation in this matter. Please be assured that Reese Products and your dealer have taken this action in the interest of your safety and continued satisfaction with our product.

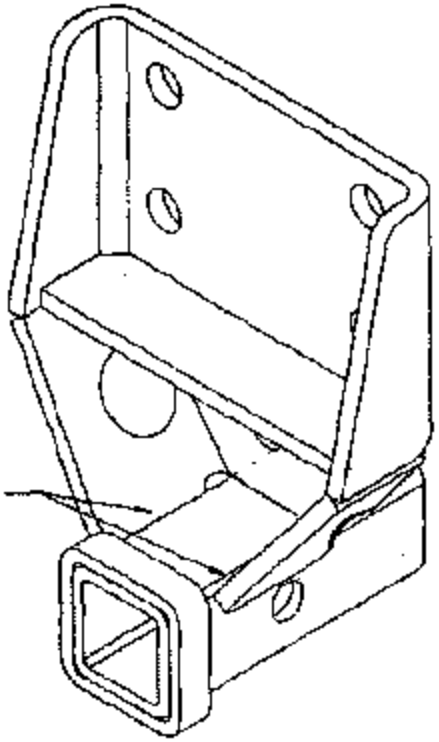
Sincerely,

Randal Rockwell

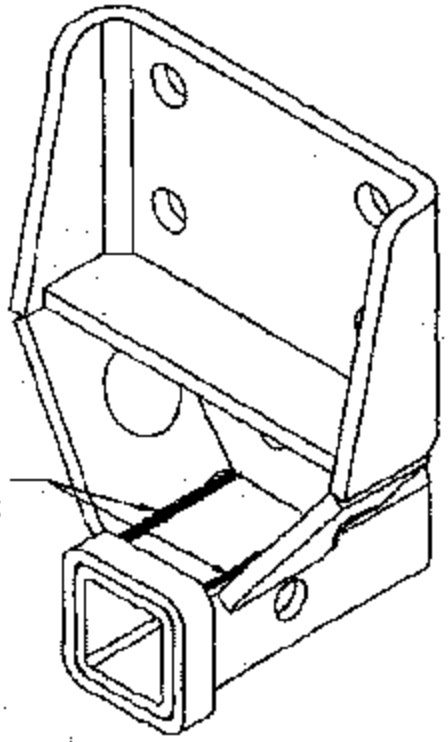
Randal Rockwell
Chief Engineer

NOTE: For technical assistance contact Reese Service Center 1-800/758-0869

93E-023 (06)



06070 OLD



06088 NEW

APPLICATION FIT LIST:
87-91 RAIDER 4 X 4
89-91 AMIGO
86-91 TROOPER & TROOPER II (NOT RS & LS)
91-92 MONTERO
91-93 LANDCRUISER

RECALL HITCH 06070 REPLACED WITH 06088

UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES

C. RICER 5-15-98

R. TEALL

REESE PRODUCTS INC.
a subsidiary of
TriMas Corporation

UTILITY HITCH RECALL

RECALL

KS
9-15-93

CONCURRENCES	
RTG. SYMBOL	NEF-111
INITIALS/SIG.	Wallace
DATE	9-15-93
RTG. SYMBOL	NEF-111
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	9-15-93
RTG. SYMBOL	
INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	
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INITIALS/SIG.	
DATE	

SEP 17 1993

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Randall Rockwell
Chief Engineer
Reese Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706
Elkhart, IN 46515

NEF-111paw
93E-023

Dear Mr. Rockwell:

This acknowledges receipt of your Defect Information Report involving trailer hitches produced by Reese Products, Inc. (Reese) submitted in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573, "Defect and Noncompliance Reports."

RECALL CAMPAIGN INFORMATION

NHTSA Recall Campaign ID Number: 93E 023
(Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.)

NHTSA Contact: Jonathan D. White, Chief, Technical Analysis Branch
Telephone: (202) 366-5227
Fax: (202) 366-7882

Date of Letter: July 22, 1993

Number of Items Being Recalled: 670 Reese Class II Insta trailer hitches, Part No. 06070, manufactured from March 1992 through June 1993.

Defect: The weld holding the square hitch box to the hitch mounting plate can fail.

Reese is responsible for the remedy of this equipment from this date forward, regardless of equipment age or ownership. You should know that the agency provides a listing of safety recalls to the media at the end of each month. This recall will be a part of that listing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED

In order for us to complete our file on this matter, please provide the following additional information.

1. Identify how Reese arrived at the inclusive dates of manufacture of the equipment involved in this recall campaign.

2. Identify the source for the owner names and addresses used in this recall campaign and identify how recent these names and addresses are.

3. Identify the number of (a) incident reports (including owner complaints, field reports, and other reports) and (b) accidents (including the number of injuries and fatalities) which occurred prior to the defect determination.

Please provide this information, referencing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's identification codes on page 1 of this letter, to this office **by October 12, 1993**.

NOTIFICATION TO PURCHASERS

Notification to purchasers should begin as soon as possible. A final copy of all the notification documents must be submitted to this office within 5 working days after the documents are first sent to purchasers and dealers as required in Part 573.5(c)(9).

The telephone number for the **Auto Safety Hotline Washington, DC area residents** is incorrect. The correct telephone numbers for the Hotline are: 1-800-424-9393 nationally, and 202-366-0123 for Washington, DC area residents. These numbers are to be used in the notification for any future safety recall campaigns.

QUARTERLY STATUS REPORTS

Quarterly reports are due for the first 6 consecutive quarters once owner notification has begun. In the case where the recall appears to be completed, quarterly reporting is required until your company is notified otherwise by this office. The first quarterly status report for this campaign, as required in Part 573.6, is required to be submitted within 25 working days after the close of the calendar quarter **in which notification to purchasers begins**. For instance, the current calendar quarter ends on September 30, 1993, and the first quarterly report for recalls where owner notification begins in this quarter is due by November 7, 1993.

For the first quarterly report, we request that Reese identify, separately, the number of items which were returned or otherwise remedied from manufacturer, distributor, and dealer/retailer inventory from that returned or otherwise addressed by the equipment owners.

Sincerely,

James P. Talentino, Chief
Defect Identification Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement

NHTSA:NEF:ODI
PWALLACE:kjs:9-15-93
cc: NEF-01, NEF-10, NEF-11JPT
NEF-111 Subj/Working File
Document #I:\patw\93E023.ack

Original for Docket #1 11/9/93 Gave to Brent

Reese Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 1706 · 51671 State Road 19 North · Elkhart, IN 46515

PHONE 219-264-7564
FAX INQUIRIES 219-264-6442
FAX - ORDERS ONLY 219-262-5462
PHONE ORDERS 1-800-359-5564

November 8, 1993

TO: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
400 SEVENTH STREET, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

ATTN: JONATHAN D. WHITE, CHIEF

Post-it™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671 | # of pages ▸ 2

To JONATHAN D. WHITE	From R. TEAGUE
Co. NHTSA	Co. REESE
Dept. CHIEF	Phone # 219-264-7564
Fax # 202-366-7882	Fax # 219-264-6442

FROM: RANDAL ROCKWELL,
CHIEF ENGINEER
REESE PRODUCTS, INC.
P.O. BOX 1706
ELKHART IN 46515

SUBJ: REQUESTED INFORMATION AND FIRST QUARTERLY REPORT
(THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1993)

REF: RECALL I.D. NO. 93E-023
NOTIFICATION DATE: JULY 22, 1993

1.) THE EQUIPMENT INVOLVED IN THIS RECALL CAMPAIGN INCLUDES ALL PARTS MANUFACTURED WITH PART NUMBER 06070. THE DATES OF MANUFACTURE ARE DETERMINED FROM PRODUCTION INSPECTION REPORTS AND DESIGN DATES ON BLUEPRINTS.

2.) THE SOURCE FOR THE OWNER NAMES AND ADDRESSES USED IN THIS RECALL WAS DERIVED FROM OUR CUSTOMER SALES HISTORY FILE.

3.) ONE INCIDENT WAS REPORTED BY A CUSTOMER INVOLVING PART NUMBER 06070. NO ACCIDENTS, INJURIES, OR FATALITIES HAVE OCCURRED.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADM.
NOVEMBER 8, 1993
PAGE TWO OF TWO

4.) THROUGH SEPTEMBER 1993, (53) OF (670) TOTAL PART NUMBER 06070 TRAILER HITCHES HAVE BEEN RETURNED. THE (53) HAVE ALL BEEN RETURNED BY DISTRIBUTORS/RETAILERS OF REESE PRODUCTS.

5.) EIGHT OF THE (53) RETURNED HITCHES WERE REMOVED FROM INSPECTED VEHICLES, AND REPLACED.

6) OF THE TOTAL OF (670) PART NUMBER 06070 PRODUCED, THE NUMBER DETERMINED TO BE UNREACHABLE IS ZERO (0).

RANDAL ROCKWELL
CHIEF ENGINEER

CC R. McCOY, R. TEALL, L. HENNEBERGER. FAX NO. (202)857-6395